

# Seattle Human Rights Commission

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 5th, 2013, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

City Hall - Boards and Commissions Room

**Commissioners Present:** Cathy Moore, Katherine Beckett, Rich Stolz, Anita Branch, Alex Becker, Jennifer Yogi, Naomi McMillen, Alejandra Gonza, Ethel Branch, Christina Ygon, Nika Dahlbacka

**Commissioners Absent:** Greg Ramirez, Andrea Negrete, Marsha Mavunkel, Marty Penner, Anita Khandelwal

**SOCR Staff Present:** Julie Nelson, Ronald Ramp

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:03

**Julie SOCR Report:** Julie talked about Seattle Center exhibit, and associated article in the Seattle Times. Julie discussed the new all city equity training. Julie passed a one page about intersections of bias.

Minutes approved with the correction Alex did not attend the November meeting.

**Guest Speaker Jasmin Christopher:** Jasmin is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year law student at Seattle University, and law clerk at the U.S. Attorney's Office. Jasmin is a survivor of human trafficking. Jasmin discussed the lack of legal protections and social awareness around human trafficking. The efforts are not coordinated, and the scale of the issue is not known. Jasmin supports the notion that all the people matter in this work. She mentioned that human trafficking and human smuggling are different; Jasmin said it would be useful to have data from city about this issue, and what is already being on a city level. Alejandra will be the point person on this.

Alejandra discussed the 10 point plan US Coalition of Cities Against Racism and Discrimination. The commission will keep an eye on this.

**CEDAW implementation and possible collaboration with Columbia Law School:** This is a good idea, brought before the City Council thought a resolution to adopt CEDAW. Julie said this could be a recommendation from the Gender Equity Task Force, and the commission. This would build on the declaration of making Seattle a human rights city.

**Death Penalty:** ACLU gauges voters intentions, replace with life without parole. No bill on table. The plan for 2014 is to work with stake holders, not public. The commission will keep an eye on this.

Katherine Beckett discussed the use of an intern for the commission. Work around the fish consumption issue was put forward. Ethel will work with intern on fish consumption rate issue, and Nika will be the backup. Ethel could have office space available for the intern. It was suggested also put the intern on the coal issue.

City Center; Katherine mentioned LEAD, and diversion. Nothing about aggressive panhandling. The commission will keep an eye on it.

Alejandra discussed the Nestora Salgado issue. She is a US citizen that went back to Mexico. She is being held unjustly in Mexico since August 2013. The Family is asking for support to pressure Mexico to free her. Alejandra wrote a letter in support of her release. Cathy moved approved to send letter; motion passed.

Nika discussed the five commission partnership opportunities.

Nick Licata is following SPD in car video issues.

**Pete Holmes would like to attend a commission meeting.**

Human Rights issue around the new water front was discussed; no name at this point.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 pm